

Legislative Reference Service

Week Ending 1/31/03

NO. 1

CODE ENFORCEMENT

S-124 LIEN FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS (McCaffrey & Polisena) This act would limit to 6 years the lien created on property for the costs incurred by building officials that make emergency repairs on unsafe buildings. Judiciary

EDUCATION & SCHOOLS

H-5013 SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS (Anderson) This act would provide for an annual salary supplement for any licensed speech language pathologist who has acquired a certificate of clinical competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. H.E.W.

H-5047 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES (Savage & Others) This act would make children placed in group homes, foster care facility, child care facilities or placed by a Rhode Island state agency residents of a town/city if the child attends a public school in the city/town in which such group home, child care facility or foster home is located, or if the child attends a nonpublic school in the city/town in the same community or another the child shall be deemed a resident of the city/town in which the child previously resided. H.E.W.

H-5057 VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN (Naughton & Others) This resolution would create a 13-member special house commission whose purpose it would be to promote and develop a comprehensive system of education for visually impaired children that includes early child screening, development, as well as K-12 instruction. Read and Passed

H-5070 TARGETED SCHOOL AID (Corvese & Others) This act would change the district requirements for eligibility for targeted school aid. Finance

H-5072 TEXTBOOKS (Amaral & Others) This act would exempt from sales taxes any books purchased by or for students in grades K-12 if purchased at that student's school. Finance

H-5095 EDUCATION MANDATES (Winfield & Others) This resolution would create a 7-member special house commission whose purpose it would be to study state education mandates for cities and towns. Finance

H-5163 PRIVATE SCHOOLS (Picard) This act would permit students who attend a private school to participate as a member of a public school team if their private school does not field a team in that sport. H.E.W.

H-5164 STUDENTS WITH DIABETES (Savage & Others) This act would establish training and guidelines for the care of students with diabetes. H.E.W.

H-5165 INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF (Picard) This act would exempt interpreters for the deaf performing in elementary or secondary education settings from license requirements in circumstances where no licensed interpreter is available. H.E.W.

H-5183 SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (Williamson) This act would provide increased funding for special education for fiscal year 2003-2004 and would also establish a legislative commission to evaluate the scope and costs of services to special education students in Rhode Island. Finance

H-5199 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Anderson) This act would establish that a certificate of clinical competence issued by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association would be the equivalent to a certificate issued by the National Board of Professional Teachers' Standards for purposes of this section. H.E.W.

H-5200 CHRONICALLY DISRUPTIVE CHILDREN (Kilmartin) This act would give the board of regents for elementary and secondary education the authority to require parents of chronically disruptive students to attend conferences. H.E.W.

H-5233 EXTRAORDINARY SERVICES (Story & Others) This act would provide for the reimbursement of extraordinary services to school districts. Finance

H-5297 TEACHER ASSISTANTS (Montanaro & Others) This act would require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to utilize multiple methods to ensure compliance with teacher assistant qualification requirements of the federal "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001". H.E.W.

H-5309 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Gallison & Others) This act would provide for a 7-member committee to review charter applications and provides that the commissioner, with the approval of the board of regents for elementary and secondary education, may approve amendments to the original charter application. It would also provide for municipal approval. Finance

H-5310 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Gallison & Others) This act would require that funding for charter public schools be approved by the voters of each local district at either a regularly scheduled financial town meeting or budget meeting. Finance

H-5315 COZ FAMILY CENTERS (Moran & Others) This act would establish a child opportunity zone (COZ) family center fund and appropriate \$1,000,000 for the development of existing or new COZ family centers. Finance

H-5321 REGIONAL CENTER COLLABORATIVE (Menard & Others) This act would include any construction done by the Northern Rhode Island Collaborative after January 1, 2003, in the PILOT Program. Finance

H-5322 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (Lima & Others) This act would provide additional state educational aid to school districts that do not privatize their transportation services. Finance

H-5323 METAL DETECTORS (Lima & Others) This act would require metal detectors be installed in all school buildings containing students in grades 6 through 12. The act would also provide that the installation and maintenance of metal detectors would be funded by proceeds from the forfeiture of criminal assets and monies, and would create a restricted receipts account for this purpose. Finance

H-5350 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Anderson) This act would expand the school committee professional development program by adding additional topics, by recognizing individuals who complete the program, and by appropriating money. H.E.W.

H-5351 TEXTBOOKS (Malik & Others) This act would provide for the loan of textbooks to all students in grades K-12. H.E.W.

H-5352 TOBACCO PRODUCTS (McNamara & Others) This act would prohibit the advertising of tobacco products within 1 mile of any school. H.E.W.

H-5353 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE (Lima & Others) This act would allow a school department to terminate a child's enrollment if the child is over sixteen and under eighteen, if the child fails to attend school, and a reasonable attempt has been made by a school department to contact the person having control of the child. H.E.W.

S-7 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (Fogarty & Others) This act would require the state to annually pay for the tuition and related costs for students attending a state elementary or secondary vocational education school. The payments would be made directly to the respective schools. Finance

S-13 SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PROGRAM (Tassoni & Others) This act would provide a tax credit of 10% of the expenses, up to \$200, to private businesses which participate in a "Qualified School-to-Career Program". Finance

S-117 TEXTBOOKS (Walaska & Others) This act would provide for the loan of textbooks to all students grades K-12. Finance

S-181 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (Tassoni & Others) This act would require the state to provide funding for the special education needs of a child who moves into a city/town after the school committee adopts its budget for the school year. Any additional funding would apply to that school year only. Finance

S-188 KINDERGARTEN (Lanzi & Others) This act would maintain the present law requiring that a child attain the age of 5 years on or before December 31st of any school year in order to be eligible for kindergarten during that school year. Current law provides that the date will change to September 1st, effective January 1, 2004. Education

S-189 TEACHER ASSISTANTS (Badeau & Others) This act would require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to utilize multiple methods to ensure compliance with teacher assistant qualification requirements of the federal "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001". Education

ELECTIONS

H-5102 COMPENSATION OF ELECTION OFFICIALS (Benson & Others) This act would allow cities and towns to obtain state funds in order to increase compensation of election officials. Finance

H-5344 CHANGE OF DESIGNATION (Gorham & Others) This act would reduce the waiting period required for disaffiliation with a political party from 90 days to 29 days. Judiciary

S-123 NOMINATION PAPERS (Bates & Others) This act would eliminate the need to have nomination papers prepared for candidates who have previously qualified for the same office, or who face no opposition. Judiciary

S-126 CERTIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP (Ciccone & Others) This act would require a person to provide proof of citizenship at the time they register to vote. Judiciary

S-174 CHANGE OF DESIGNATION (Raptakis & Others) This act would reduce the waiting period required for disaffiliation with a political party from 90 days to 29 days. Judiciary

ENVIRONMENT

H-5053 RAIN SENSOR DEVICES (Anderson) This act would require an automatic lawn sprinkler system to be equipped with a rain sensor device that would automatically shut the system off in the event a predetermined amount of rainfall occurs within an established time period. Joint Water Resources

H-5054 WATER FACILITIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Anderson) This act would designate where the proceeds from the sale of water from the big river management area will be placed. Joint Water Resources

H-5116 ECO-DEPOT (Enos & Others) This act would expand the Eco-depot Program through Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation to include revolving, bi-yearly household hazardous waste collection sites in each of the 5 Rhode Island counties. This act would provide funding for this program through the environmental response fund. Corporations

H-5211 ENERGY SUPPLY ACT (San Bento & Others) This act would establish a procedure that municipalities must follow before they acquire a petroleum marine facility or fuel storage facility by eminent domain, which includes input from the Department of Environmental Management and the Economic Development Corporation. Corporations

H-5338 TRASH HAULERS (Cerra & Others) This act would enable a city/town where a landfill is located, by ordinance, to issue licenses to any trash haulers dumping at the landfill, and impose a fee for the issuance of a license. Corporations

S-28 SANITATION STANDARDS FOR BATHING BEACHES (Walaska & Others) This act would establish minimum sanitation standards by the Department of Health in order to protect the public from contaminants in beach bathing water. Health & Human Services

S-57 TIPPING FEES (Polisena & Damiani) This act would require the Resource Recovery Corporation to charge an additional \$3 tipping fee for each municipal vehicle and to pay this fee to the town of Johnston on a biannual basis. Finance

S-182 COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (Parella & Others) This act would prohibit the CRMC from permitting commercial development without input from the town or towns affected. Environment & Agriculture

FINANCE & TAXATION

H-5011 MUNICIPAL LIEN CERTIFICATES (Lowe) This act would increase the fee for a municipal lien certificate from \$12 to \$18. Corporations

H-5066 EMISSION INSPECTION EQUIPMENT (Corvese & Petrarca) This act would exempt emissions inspection equipment used by authorized emission inspection stations from taxation. Corporations

H-5087 ELDERLY TAX EXEMPTIONS (Trillo & Others) This act would allow cities or towns to freeze valuation of real property of single or married persons 65 years or older who have taxable income of 350% of the poverty level or less. Corporations

H-5088 QUALIFIED BONDS (Lima & Others) This act would authorize cities and towns to request that the State General Treasurer pay debt service on the municipality's general obligation bonds, and would withhold the amount of the debt service payment from the municipality's state aid. Corporations

H-5098 PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND (Moffitt & Others) This act would require a percentage of video lottery terminal receipts to be paid to the permanent school fund. Finance

H-5113 SCHOOL AID (Corvese) This act would require the state to provide aid to the several cities and towns for the cost of education on a graduated basis. Finance

H-5127 MAXIMUM AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS (Corvese) This act would increase the maximum aggregated indebtedness a city or town may incur from 3% to 3 ½% of the taxable property of the city or town. Corporations

H-5188 POWER TO BORROW MONEY (Williamson) This act would permit municipalities to borrow money from recognized financial institutions in order to acquire certain types of properties. Corporations

H-5285 TAX LIENS (Corvese & Schadone) This act would allow a city or town tax collector to issue a tangible personal property tax certificate prior to a sale of a business, and to place a lien on property if such tax is in arrears. Corporations

H-5313 DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES (Moura & Others) This act would require that \$15,000,000 of video lottery revenue be contributed to the Distressed Communities Relief Program. Finance

H-5316 SCHOOL HOUSING AID (Menard & Others) This act would double the school housing aid for any municipality that houses a school built by an educational collaborative. Finance

H-5317 SCHOOL HOUSING AID (Menard & Others) This act would increase state aide for new construction/expansion for school districts that experience at least 4% increase in enrollment for 3 consecutive years. Finance

S-42 HEALTH INSURANCE (Polisena & Others) This act would permit cities and towns, at their option, to participate in state insurance plans. Labor

S-44 SCHOOL AID (Walaska & Others) This act would set a deadline for the appropriation of state aid to education for the various cities and towns. Education

S-70 BONDED INDEBTEDNESS (Bates & Others) This act would clarify and expand the criteria for the issuance of bonds for cities and towns. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

S-96 QUALIFIED BONDS (Lanzi & Others) This act would authorize cities and towns request that the State General Treasurer pay debt service on the municipality's general obligation bonds, and would withhold the amount of the debt service payment from the municipality's state aid. Finance

S-98 EMISSION INSPECTION EQUIPMENT (Celona) This act would exempt emissions inspection equipment used by authorized emission inspection stations from taxation. Finance

S-143 MUNICIPAL DEFICITS (Montalbano & Others) This act would provide a mechanism to more closely monitor the financial operations of the various cities and towns in order to prevent year-end deficits, and would execute a rapid response to budget problems. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

S-193 URBAN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT (Cote & Others) This act would create the "Urban Investment Tax Credit Act of 2003" for the purpose of stimulating investment in urban areas for homeownership and improvement of rental property in those areas. Finance

LABOR RELATIONS

H-5080 LABOR RELATIONS BOARD (Corvese & Schadone) This act would require the State Labor Relations Board to hold formal hearings on all unfair labor practice charges and unit classification petitions. Labor

H-5203 TEACHERS' ARBITRATION (Anderson) This act would require the bargaining agent for teachers or non-teacher employees and a school committee to submit their last best offer as to salary to arbitration, and would require the selection of one offer or the other, which choice would be binding on the parties. Labor

H-5204 TEACHERS' ARBITRATION (Williamson) This act would require that a chief executive officer or, if no chief executive officer, a member of a city/town council would participate in a collective bargaining process involving school teachers, and would be entitled to vote on any contract. Labor

H-5298 UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES (Montanaro & Others) This act would broaden the jurisdiction of the Labor Relations Board to consider and address unfair labor practices that have also been filed as grievances under a collective bargaining agreement. Labor

S-103 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS (Damiani & Others) This act would mandate that, if there is a conflict between a collective bargaining agreement involving a public sector employer and a public sector employee organization and the terms of a municipal charter or ordinance, the conflict be resolved in favor of the collective bargaining agreement. Labor

S-128 MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION (Damiani & Others) This act would provide for a continuance of contractual benefits to municipal police personnel in the event that collective bargaining between the municipality and the collective bargaining agent is not resolved within 30 days, and a new contract is not entered into by the parties during that 30-day period. Labor

S-129 MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION (Damiani & Others) This act would allow all police officers with the exception of the police chief to become members of the collective bargaining organization. Labor

S-130 MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION (Damiani & Others) This act would provide that, in the event a majority of police officers in any city/town select a new bargaining agent, the collective bargaining agreement in effect would be binding on both the new bargaining agent and the corporate authority. Labor

S-207 ARBITRATION OF LABOR CONTROVERSIES (McBurney) This act would make changes in the grounds for vacating an arbitrator's award. Labor

S-210 UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES (McBurney) This act would further establish the Labor Relations Board's ability to prevent unfair labor practices notwithstanding the election of remedies doctrine or remedies in contracts, including grievance procedures or arbitrations. Labor

LIQUOR CONTROL & LICENSES

H-5017 COMPLIANCE CHECK (Lowe) This act would provide that a manager of a retail outlet would be immediately notified if alcohol is sold to a minor during a compliance check. Corporations

H-5212 CLASS A LIQUOR LICENSES (Rose & Others) This act would allow Class A retail license holders to open on the Sunday before Thanksgiving and each subsequent Sunday through the Sunday before New Year's. Corporations

H-5220 CLASS A LIQUOR LICENSES (Brien & Others) This act would permit Class A retail license holders to open on Sundays from the Sunday after Thanksgiving until December 31st. Corporations

H-5331 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – LICENSES (Lewiss & Others) This act would prohibit a licensee from obtaining a stay of a revocation, suspension or non-renewal of a liquor license if the basis of the revocation, suspension or non-renewal was the conviction of the licensee of the manufacture, sale or distribution of a controlled substance. Corporations

S-81 SAMPLE WINE TASTINGS (Walaska & Others) This act would provide that a holder of a Class A liquor license would be permitted to conduct, without charge on the premises of the licensee, sample wine tastings for prospective customers, of wines available at the licensee's outlet. Constitutional & Gaming Issues

PLANNING & ZONING

H-5012 DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE ACT (Anderson) This act would provide that impact fees not be imposed on low and moderate income housing. Corporations

H-5192 WIRELESS SERVICE TOWERS (Gorham & Others) This act would provide notice to property owners of the placement, construction or modification of a personal wireless service tower within an expanding number of feet from the location of the tower depending on the height of the tower. Corporations

PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE

H-5015 AMBER ALERT (Giannini & Others) This act would require the state police to develop an emergency alert plan to expedite the safe recovery of abducted children. Judiciary

H-5044 UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (Tejada & Others) This act would add places of worship, public libraries and community centers to the list of locations, which provide for an enhancement of penalties for the distribution or manufacture of a controlled substance. Judiciary

H-5078 FETAL PROTECTION ACT (Schadone & Others) This act would establish the Fetal Protection Act. Judiciary

H-5089 POLICE OFFICERS TRAINING (Enos & Others) This act would require the Commission on Standards and Training to publish mandatory training standards for police officers dealing with individuals who may pose a danger to themselves or others due to mental illness. Corporations

H-5093 NFPA 1500 (Palumbo) This act would impose a fine for failure to comply with the requirement that fire departments implement NFPA 1500. Corporations

H-5097 THERMAL IMAGING DEVICES (Ginaitt & Others) This act would require the state to provide handheld thermal imaging devices to municipal fire departments and districts on a per capita basis. Finance

H-5100 CRUELTY TO POLICE ANIMALS (Palumbo & Others) This act would amend and expand the provisions pertaining to cruelty to police animals. Judiciary

H-5126 ASSAULTS (Schadone & Others) This act would raise the age of a child assault victim from 10 years to 16 years of age or younger. Corporations

H-5128 PREGNANT WOMEN (Corvese & Others) This act would make assault on a pregnant woman causing her to suffer a miscarriage or stillbirth punishable by up to 30 years imprisonment. Judiciary

H-5132 NURSING HOME PATIENTS (Palumbo & Others) This act would require nursing home employees to report physical or sexual assaults to the state or local police. Judiciary

H-5136 UNATTENDED CHILDREN (Schadone & Others) This act would make the abandonment of a child 5 years of age or younger in any unattended motor vehicle a misdemeanor. Judiciary

H-5139 FORENSIC DNA TESTING (Voccola & Others) This act would adopt the New York law regarding the processing and use of DNA evidence. Judiciary

H-5190 DIESEL VEHICLES IDLING STANDARDS (McNamara & Others) This act would regulate the idle times of diesel powered motor vehicles, and would establish fines for violations of the regulation. Corporations

H-5208 MUNICIPAL AMBULANCES (Menard & Others) This act would prohibit all emergency medical transportation services, except for municipal ambulances, from using emergency sirens and lights unless under emergency conditions. Corporations

H-5213 DECEASED FIREFIGHTERS (Laroche & Others) This act would provide a 3% yearly cost of living increase in the annuities paid to the widows or widowers of deceased firefighters. Corporations

H-5260 TRAFFIC OFFENSES (Flaherty & Others) This act would authorize the issuance of civil body attachments for those who fail to appear for a traffic offense. Judiciary

H-5263 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Menard & Others) This act would provide benefits to firefighters for various forms of cancer and respiratory diseases. Labor

H-5267 CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY (Moran & Others) This act would exempt full-time law enforcement officers from obtaining a certificate of competency for an initial hunting license. Environment & Energy

H-5271 DIESEL VEHICLE IDLING STANDARDS (Ginaitt & Others) This act would regulate the idle times of diesel powered motor vehicles, and would establish fines for violations of the regulation. Environment & Energy

H-5291 STATE AND MUNICIPAL COURT COMPACT (Kilmartin & Others) This act would authorize municipal courts to assess a \$25 penalty for fines paid with checks written against insufficient funds. Judiciary

H-5293 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS (Anguilla & Others) This act would require custodial interrogations by police to be recorded and provided to the person who has been recorded. Judiciary

H-5296 FIREWORKS AND PYROTECHNICS (Gallison & Others) This act would create regulations for the transportation of fireworks and/or pyrotechnics. Judiciary

H-5330 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTING AND RESCUE SERVICES (Gorham & Others) This act would prevent the state, any city/town or any labor organization from restricting any employee or member from engaging in volunteer firefighting or rescue services. Corporations

S-10 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK (Blais) This act would require the Bureau of Criminal Identification to pay for all costs of criminal background checks required for day care workers. Finance

S-12 THERMAL IMAGING DEVICES (Blais & Others) This act would establish a fire safety equipment acquisition fund for the acquisition of thermal imaging devices. Finance

S-14 MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENCES (Walaska & Others) This act would require blood testing, when requested by law enforcement personnel, of an individual who was the driver of a motor vehicle which is involved in an accident resulting in injury or death. Judiciary

S-49 CAMPUS SECURITY (Damiani & Others) This act would allow appointed campus police officers to carry weapons while on duty, as well as, execute arrest warrants and search warrants in the course of their official duties. Judiciary

S-56 PISTOL PERMIT (Polisena & Others) This act would provide that a person possessing a license or permit for a concealed pistol or revolver issued by another state which grants Rhode Island residents reciprocity with respect to concealed pistol permits would be considered to have a valid concealed pistol permit in Rhode Island. Judiciary

S-65 ADMINISTRATION OF CHEMICAL TEST (Polisena & Others) This act would establish the procedures for the administration of a chemical test. Judiciary

S-69 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (McBurney) This act would punish persons distributing controlled substances on grounds of public housing projects. Judiciary

S-87 TRAFFIC OFFENSES (McCaffrey) This act would authorize the issuance of civil body attachments for those who fail to appear for a traffic offense. Judiciary

S-97 FIREFIGHTERS' ANNUITIES TO DEPENDENTS (Tassoni & Others) This act would increase deceased firefighters' annuities. Finance

S-118 DEFIBRILLATORS (Polisena & Others) This act would mandate that the Department of Health purchase and distribute automated external defibrillators to municipally operated senior citizen centers, and to provide training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator use. Finance

S-121 POLICE TRAINING ACADEMY (Raptakis & Others) This act would provide for a minimum number of new recruits at least every 3 years, who would be available to service the citizens of Rhode Island when vacancies occur. Judiciary

S-135 DEFIBRILLATOR REGISTRY (Polisena & Others) This act would mandate the Department of Health to establish and maintain a registry of automated external defibrillators (AED) within the state to improve emergency and bioterrorism preparedness between the Department of Health and the E-911 system. Health & Human Services

S-152 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Lanzi & Others) This act would establish a pulmonary and coronary disease disability for firefighters who, because of pulmonary or coronary disease, are unable to perform their duties. Labor

S-157 FIREFIGHTERS' INCENTIVE PAY (Lanzi & Others) This act would delete the requirement that municipal firefighters must be taking 9 semester hours of credit while they pursue their degree in order to receive incentive pay. Finance

S-162 NURSING HOME PATIENTS (Lanzi & Others) This act would require nursing home administrators to report abuse of residents to the state police or the police department of the municipality where the abuse occurred. Health & Human Services

S-171 JUSTICE COMMISSION (Tassoni & Others) This act would make changes in the composition of the Rhode Island Justice Commission, the Criminal Justice Policy Board and the Criminal Justice Oversight Committee. Judiciary

RETIREMENT

H-5168 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Gallison & Others) This act would change the contribution made by cities, towns and state to the teachers' retirement. Finance

H-5214 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY (Corvese) This act would amend the provisions for determination by a city/town of a police officer's or firefighters' disability for purposes of retirement. Corporations

H-5224 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Kilmartin) This act would allow teachers to purchase an additional 5 years of service. Finance

H-5231 DISABILITY BENEFITS (Anderson) This act would increase from 100% to 150% the amount of wages a person receiving disability retirement benefits earns in another occupation in the calculation of the amount of the retirement benefits. Finance

H-5264 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY (Faria) This act would extend the time period for filing an application for an accidental disability retirement allowance for teachers' retirement system members and municipal employees. Labor

S-6 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY (Tassoni) This act would extend the time period for filing an application for an accidental disability retirement allowance for teachers' retirement system members and municipal employees. Finance

S-110 POLICE AND FIRE – OPTIONAL RETIREMENT (Tassoni & Others) This act would change the application process for disability benefits for police and fire personnel. Finance

S-119 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Felag & Others) This act would change the contribution made by cities, towns and state to the teachers' retirement. Finance

TOWN & CITY CLERKS

H-5046 PROBATE – RULES OF DESCENT (Voccola & Others) This act would permit an estate representative to seek permission to distribute the assets of a decedent to the known heirs at law of the decedent, in certain circumstances, notwithstanding that the representative could not conclusively determine the lack of any other heirs at law. Judiciary

H-5179 ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS (Williamson) This act would allow a reasonable charge be made for the search and retrieval of documents from a geographic information system which reflects the actual cost of gathering and maintaining the information of this system. Finance

S-101 ELECTRONIC RECORDING (Perry & Others) This resolution would create a 7-member special senate commission whose purpose it would be to study electronic recording of real estate instruments. Judiciary

S-156 FISH AND WILDLIFE – LICENSING FEES (Cote & Others) This act would increase certain licensing fees to be allocated to the issuing agent. Environment & Agriculture

MISCELLANEOUS

H-5153 CONDOMINIUM TRASH REMOVAL (Picard) This act would require municipalities providing residential trash pick-up to provide the service to residential condominium units. Corporations

H-5182 THE RHODE ISLAND GAMING CONTROL AND REVENUE ACT (Williamson) This act would provide for the regulation of casino gambling if it is established in this state. Finance

H-5248 NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM (Brien & Others) This act would proscribe certain areas within which the distribution and/or exchange of needles and syringes pursuant to the Department of Health's exchange program would be prohibited. H.E.W.

H-5284 CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP (Menard & Others) This act would require municipalities to provide those services they provide to single-family residences to condominiums, or in the alternative to reimburse condominiums the costs of the services. Corporations

H-5308 MILL BUILDING AND ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION (Aubin & Lowe) This act would extend the provisions of the Mill Building and Economic Revitalization Act to August 8, 2009. Finance

H-5345 INJURIES TO ROAD SIGNS (Trillo & Others) This act would expand the list of structures which can be considered for injuries to road signs, and would impose a fine for each location. The act would provide for a fine of not less than \$100 per location. Judiciary

S-11 MUNICIPAL PLAYGROUND SAFETY (Blais) This act would provide grants to cities and towns for projects undertaken specifically to comply with the Department of Education's and Department of Health's joint health and environment recreational facility safety regulations, and/or to provide access for people with disabilities. Finance

S-139 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN FEDERAL SERVICE (Damiani & Others) This act would require cities and towns to continue to pay employees who enter military service and continue to provide medical benefits. An offset would be allowed the city/town for military service pay received by the employee. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

S-140 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN FEDERAL SERVICE (Celona & Others) This act would provide that cities and towns would continue to maintain the health benefits every employee had at the time of his/her call to active military service. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

S-141 COOPERATIVE RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (Felag) This act would amend the law regarding the power of cities and towns to jointly establish insurance corporations. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

S-158 MEDICAL SERVICES FOR EMPLOYEES (Ciccione & Others) This act would allow part-time municipal employees who work in excess of 20 hours to receive the same health care benefits available to full-time employees, and would allow those who work less than 20 hours to purchase benefits at a rate equal to the municipality's. This act would allow part-time employees to pay for these services by a payroll deduction. Finance

S-185 CONDOMINIUM TRASH REMOVAL (Badeau) This act would require municipalities providing residential trash pickup to provide the service to residential condominium units. Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government

